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ABOUT MEXICO.

Investigation Reveals the Real Bandit Chiefs to be Americans.

New York, Sept. 30.—Americans seeking to compel intervention in Mexico by the United States plenipotentiaries at Washington, have exaggerated the Chihuahua City incident, and, according to information from members of the American and Mexican joint commission.

United States secret service agents are investigating what is regarded as a conspiracy led by Americans, first, to bring about the Chihuahua City incident, and, second, to get it exaggerated in the OFFICIAL military reports.

The reports which have been transmitted by Washington and Mexico City by the joint commission CONTRADICT the statements of the account by Brig. Gen. Geo. Bell, Jr., it is regarded as established by the state department that Villa was NOT with the raid on Chihuahua City, and that no ammunition was captured and taken off by the raiders.

The signal for the raid, it is believed, came from New York City or Washington, to the border and was forwarded by courier to the bandit organizations.

THE RAID WAS TIMED TO OCCUR just as the commissioners appeared to be on the threshold of an agreement for the substitution of a strong patrol on both sides of the border for the Pershing expedition.

The above is interesting only when the facts leading up to it are known. I will briefly relate the story. It equals the "blowing up of the Maine" incident, which pushed us needlessly into the war with Spain.

When the Americans butted into Parral some months ago and got the worst of it, the Mexicans made prisoners of those Americans that were not killed in battle—about two dozen. These soldiers were all colored, except the commanders.

Of course Uncle Sam couldn't stand for that. Lynching negroes at home does not stir our government to action, but for the Mexicans to capture them was different. It furnished an excuse for threatening intervention.

So the Washington government blurted out its ultimatum to Carranza to release those negroes in 24 hours or fight—and the mobilization of troops began.

But Carranza paid no attention to Wilson's uncalculated bluff.

Our troops were invaders and had provoked the trouble. They got the worst of it. With the exception of a very few who escaped, all of the Americans were either killed or made prisoners.

However, it looked like war. In war it is the working class on both sides who do the fighting and dying. So the labor unions of both this country and Mexico joined hands and got busy.

In the name of the American Federation of Labor President Gompers sent a telegram to President Carranza requesting the release of the colored prisoners. Promptly the Carranza government, which is a LABOR government, complied with the request and so wired Mr. Gompers. It was the workers of both nations that stayed the bloody hand of the interventionists—yet how many of you who depend on capitalist sources for information know this?

As soon as the Dogs of War were temporarily chained, Americans and Mexicans of high character arranged a conference to try to adjust the differences between the two countries, with the approval of President Wilson.

This commission has been in session in this country for weeks, and just as it was about to agree and adjourn, hell broke loose in Mexico again. Villa was resurrected and waiting all over Carranza, according to the kept news service and the OFFICIAL reports to Washington.

The commission halted. The chief point at issue was whether or not the Carranza government could maintain order. These outbreaks, if true, indicated that he could not. And the chief job of the interventionists is to see to it that these outbreaks occur on schedule time.

So the commission instituted an investigation, and FOUND THAT AMERICANS SEEKING TO COMPEL INTERVENTION IN MEXICO by the United States plenipotentiaries at Washington, have exaggerated the Chihuahua City incident, and, according to information from members of the American and Mexican joint commission.

Can you beat it? We have one hundred thousand soldiers down in that country, supposedly looking for the bandit, Villa. Yet the real bandit chiefs who are causing all of the trouble are in our own country—and the government does not even try to locate them.

Recently I took a little "swing around the circle" in the country to put up notices advertising the only NEWS-Paper of the county. Political affairs had been very

THEY SOON FORGET.

During the winter of 1913 the tenant farmers in the south half of the county were on starvation. Those that could get work at all worked for 75 cents a day and were paid in "white mule"—orders they could get only such food as the landlords decreed—beans and the like. They could not exchange these orders for what they wanted. Only the coarsest of grub could they get.

These tenants got mighty lean about the belt. Under Republican administrations they had become hopelessly in debt, and in 1912 they marched, shouted and voted for a change.

They got what they voted for. During the winter following the change, "white mule" was introduced. The tenants put up with it as long as they could, and then appealed to the Kicker concerning the organization.

They got the information and, almost before anybody knew of it, hundreds of them had banded together in self defense. The first dash out of the box they abolished white mule and got cash. This gave the organization a boost and, for a time, school houses where the meetings were held would not hold them.

Spring opened, garden truck came on, and they began to eat more regularly. The interest in the organization dwindled. The wheat crop came on and it was a bumper. Nobody cared for organization now. The European war broke out in August and prices soared. The pea, hay and melon crops were abundant. Everybody was eating regularly and it was difficult to get anyone to admit that he had ever belonged to the rebellious tenant organization.

It is a lamentable fact that the average worker can only think with his stomach. And I feel pretty sure that he will be doing some more of that sort of thinking before another crop season sets in—no matter which gang of grafters get control of the government.

"Democrats will open campaign with a boom," says the Poplar Bluff Citizen. Better use a cork screw.

It is trying on an intelligent person to read newspapers during a campaign and what the politicians say about each other. Hughes cusses Wilson and Wilson cusses Hughes. According to Republican papers, Hughes has big crowds to hear him and Wilson has nobody. According to Democratic papers Wilson gets all the hearings and Hughes gets a frost and there you are. This is the raffle from which old party voters are expected to make up their minds how to vote intelligently.

When employers volunteer to "give" anything to their workers, the workers should look for the string to it. Some large employers have a cheap pension system. On the railroads using this system, the employees received notice during the threatened strike, that if they quit work they would lose all pension privileges. In other words, it is a club the employers hold over their men to prevent them from demanding better pay or working conditions.

If Mr. Hughes and Mr. Wilson want to touch on a subject that will keep their audiences awake, they might discuss the report of the Industrial Relations Commission. That commission was appointed by congress to investigate the cause of unrest among the working class. There was not a Socialist on that commission. Only Democrats and Republicans were selected. But you couldn't hire a Democrat or Republican to discuss their report. It's got medicine in it.

The cross-roads newspapers are appealing to the rural roosters to contribute to the campaign fund. Go it, Rubie. Every dollar they can coax out of you is a dollar saved to the Big Interests that finance both old parties. It also has the effect of making you believe you "belong" to the party.

Mrs. J. T. Winchester, wife of the public administrator of Stoddard county took her own life last week by shooting herself at her home near Bernie. She was 40 years old and leaves three children.

Stick to the unmuzzled Kicker.

Surely most men who are elected to run the affairs of a county have not the ability to run a peanut stand. A familiar story now comes from New Madrid county. It is the old story of getting the tax-payers into it "by inches." New Madrid is the county seat of New Madrid county and is on the river—as far away from the center of the county as it is possible to get. But the "best people" live there and they rule the county. A few years ago these "best people" induced the common people to vote \$50,000 bonds on themselves to build a court house for the said "best people." Now the \$50,000 has been spent and the court house needs \$25,000 more to finish it. And another bond issue is to be asked for. And the suckers will stand for it—just as they did in Scott county.

Everybody speaks of the quietness of the present campaign. I have been in various towns recently and you seldom hear it mentioned. The reason for this is that the old patriots have not even a fake issue to quarrel over. So the only thing to do is to lay low until a few weeks before the election, and then storm the voters with rallies, brass bands, hot air, booze and bluster. The dupes of the old parties hand the voters must be swallowed while it is hot. It wouldn't "go down," if allowed to cool off.

"Roach says G. O. P. stole millions of school money" is the headline of a factory news item going the rounds of the kept press. Well, the G. O. P. says that the Dons stole millions of school money. Let's call it a draw. I feel pretty sure that both tell the truth about the school money. Anyhow, some fifteen million dollars of it disappeared and certificates of indebtedness substituted.

Politicians have an awful time keeping the records straight. The administration organs have been telling us that all of the trusts have been busted. Last week these papers carried a cartoon representing the trusts as supplying the G. O. P. with campaign funds.

Stick to the unmuzzled Kicker.

ABOUT RURAL CREDITS.

The administration organs are telling you just now what the government at Washington did for the farmer. They say they have provided for a farm loan bank which is to save his bacon. Yet not one in a thousand of these organ-grinders know any more about this law than the farmer himself.

The powers of plunder have discovered too late that they have crushed the "independent farmer." Now they are trying to help him up without getting off his back. It can't be done any more than you can lift yourself by your boot-strings.

When I read in the kept newspapers about some great thing the rulers have done for the masses, I always look for the "ligger in the woodpile" and he is always there.

Now, the principle of the Farm Loan bank is an "right"—just the principle of the Gardner Loan bank. But the principle has been smothered under a mass of red tape and red tape when a farmer will hardly care to read the law. A farmer who can borrow from local government banks can also borrow anywhere else—and evade the red tape. In time this law will become beneficial, just as the postal savings banks will become so—but not so long as the bankers and money interest run the government.

The Farm Loan bank, the Rural Loan Bank, the Postal Savings Bank and the Farmers Trust are all concessions to ruralism—or, if you please, Socialism. But all are so muzzled as to be of little use to the public, except the Farmers Trust. From this the Dons are being snatched out, as the people understand it more. It will be so in time with the others.

From the accounts I read of the national Farm Loan law in the farm journals, when it has been so very enthusiastic over it, but yet approve of it, I feel sure that the real nigger in the wood-pile had not been revealed to me. So I plowed through the Congressional Record to find him. And I found him all spread out.

Since I considered Bro. Eli Ake, of the Iron Horse Register, one of the ablest exponents of modern Democracy, I should like for him to explain what this "ligger" is doing in that wood-pile.

The organs that "boon" about this law don't give you any details. They try to make the farmer believe that an act will have to be done to get money to be paid out his hand. But the law provides that at least enough farmers must join in an association to take not less than \$25,000. These farmers must give up such security as is now accepted by insurance companies, and in addition, each member is responsible for the whole debt of the association, if I understand the law correctly.

The rate of interest is not to exceed 6 per cent. The banks will see to it that it is no lower. In addition, the farmer must pay for abstract of title and fire insurance to protect him through the making of red tape. Then as only gets 50 per cent of the loan in advance, he has lost and paid a loan by the bank is additional security, yet the farmer pays the interest on the whole. For the five per cent he is given bank stock. In other words, a group of farmers borrowing \$25,000 would get \$12,500 cash and \$12,500 in bank stock.

Now, here comes that "ligger." The same law provides that privately owned banks with a capital of \$250,000 may get the same government aid as to money and supply the farmer. But all the red tape is removed. You don't have to join any association, don't have to be responsible for anybody's debts but your own, and you get the full amount of the loan applied for.

In other words, the government provided a competition for its own banking system and put all of the tramp cars in the competitors' hands.

Will some of the administration organs, who insist that Wilson has got Wall Street headed for the poor house, please explain this?

Except the loosening of the strings a little that tied down the parcels post and the postal savings bank, the present administration has not enacted a single law beneficial to the towns.

HAD TO OBEY ORDERS. An old colored uncle was round by the preacher prowling in his barnyard late one night.

"Uncle Calum," said the preacher sternly, "it can't be good for your rheumatism to be prowling round here in the air and cold."

"Doctor's orders, sah," the old man answered.

"Doctor's orders?" said the preacher. "Did he tell you to go prowling round all night?"

"No, sah, not exactly, sah," said Uncle Cal; "but he done ordered me chicken broth."—Sacramento Bee.

"What is polygamy?" asked the teacher.

"When a man has several wives," came the answer.

"What do we call it when he has only one?"

"Monotony," was the reply.

Read the unmuzzled Kicker.

"FRIENDS OF LABOR."

As is always the case just before an election, the old party candidates are proclaiming their love for Labor. Both Hughes and Wilson are at it. But the Democrats seem to have a little the best of the argument.

Just now they are putting the loud pedal on the 8-hour day for trainmen. There is absolutely nothing in the law as it stands. The brotherhood chiefs demand the law to become effective on January 1, and the law was first so drawn. But this was changed to January 1.

Wait! Wait! congress meets the first Monday in December and will have a month in which to "fix it." And if the trainmen get anything out of it, it will be because of the strength of their organization—because they are able to COMPEL concessions.

The other day I was riding on a train with a conductor who was proclaiming what a great friend of labor Wilson is. He has done more for labor than any other man," he insisted. When I replied that he did no more than he was compelled to do to "save his face," this conductor snorted at the idea.

"It was the power of your organization, 400,000 strong, that brought the president and congress to its knees," I said. "Had it not been for this organized power you would have been told to keep off the grass, as Coxey's army was. You are but 20 per cent of those employed in railroading. If the administration is so friendly to labor, why didn't it make every unorganized in its 8-hour law?"

To this my conductor did not reply. He could not. And if he would quit wasting his breath on Wilson and boast not only his own organization, but encourage organization among all workers, he might accomplish something. But, like all workers who vote the old party tickets, he is barking up the wrong tree.

The little boosting up that congress did on the postal savings banks by removing the foolish limit of deposits to \$500 per year, has increased deposits three million dollars in a very short time. Total deposits are now over fifty million dollars. The banks get the use of this money at 2-1-4 per cent per annum. If the gold brick vendors at Washington really wanted to do something for the farmer, why didn't they let him have this money on the same terms as the banks are getting it?

THAT OLD ARGUMENT.

One of the stock arguments against the Socialist party is that it is composed of members from the two old parties and would, therefore, become as corrupt as the old parties if given power.

It is not denied that the old parties are rotten to the core. The fact that they are rotten is used as proof that from their membership no good can come. But there is a wide difference in the core of the Socialist party and a capitalist party. The rank and file, the great mass, of all parties are honest and want their government to do more than does a Democrat or Socialist farmer or laborer.

But the basic principles of capitalism and Socialism are opposites. One is the reverse of the other. A capitalist government is one in which the rule of property is absolute. Property first, life and liberty afterward. A "business administration," they call it—one in which the bank clearings are great and corporate dividends enormous, while the workers skimp and suffer.

The Socialist view is just opposite and regards the welfare of humanity first—life, liberty and happiness. Property is a secondary consideration—if considered at all. We know that property does not produce happiness, but only strife. We know that there is plenty and to spare for all, if all had an equal chance at the resources of nature. Rent, interest and profit would be abolished, and no able-bodied person could live off the labor of others. Class distinctions would disappear and all would be workers.

It was because Jesus advocated just this form of society that he was put to death. Then, as now, the ruling class shied itself behind religion and accused Jesus of being a blasphemer. Yet it is the Judge Pontius Pilate said he could find nothing wrong with the man, and washed his hands. But the high priests, rulers and speculators whom Jesus had driven from the temple incited the mob to crucify him.

The same pious crowd are doing the same thing today to all who effectively oppose their rule. Where, in the Bible, is to be found authority for a warranty deed to hold land forever? It isn't there. On the contrary, it is strictly and positively forbidden in Lev. 25.

Where, in the Bible, will you find authority for rent, interest and profit? It isn't there. On the contrary, it is strictly and positively forbidden. Yet the pretended followers of Jesus build costly churches and let the slaves that they rob live in hovels.

The capitalists are very patriotic. They are willing to sacrifice the lives of a million of their wage slaves to uphold "national honor."



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